

**COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT
(CSTD)**

**Twenty-sixth session
Geneva, 27-31 March 2023**

**Submissions from entities in the United Nations system, international
organizations and other stakeholders on their efforts in 2022 to
implement the outcomes of the WSIS**

Submission by

International Telecommunication Union

This submission was prepared as an input to the report of the UN Secretary-General on "Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels" (to the 26th session of the CSTD), in response to the request by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2006/46, to the UN Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS as part of his annual reporting to the Commission.

DISCLAIMER: The views presented here are the contributors' and do not necessarily reflect the views and position of the United Nations or the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.



The Secretary-General

Geneva, 31 October 2022

Ref: WSIS CSTD 2022
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Ms. Rebeca Grynspan
Secretary-General
United Nations Conference on Trade and
Development (UNCTAD)
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 Genève 10

Subject: ITU's contribution to the preparation of the Secretary-General's report on progress made in 2022 in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

Dear Ms. Grynspan,

This is with reference to the letter dated 21 June 2022 inviting the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to contribute to the preparation of the Secretary-General's report which will assess progress made in 2022 in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit.

ITU has the pleasure to submit the following documents to the CSTD as inputs and as official contributions of the ITU:

1. ITU Contribution to the Implementation of the WSIS Outcomes – 2022: <https://www.itu.int/en/itu-wsis/Pages/Contribution.aspx>
2. WSIS Forum 2022 Outcome Document: <https://itu.int/go/WSISForumOutcomes>
3. WSIS Forum 2022 High Level Track Outcomes and Executive Brief: <https://itu.int/go/WSISForumOutcomes>
4. WSIS Forum 2022: Report - WSIS Action Lines: Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: <https://itu.int/go/WSISForumOutcomes>
5. WSIS Stocktaking Report 2022: <https://itu.int/go/WSISForumOutcomes>
6. WSIS Stocktaking Success Stories 2022: <https://itu.int/go/WSISForumOutcomes>
7. WSIS Forum 2022 Photo Contest: <https://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2022/PhotoContest>
8. WSIS Forum 2022 and SDG Matrix: <https://itu.int/go/WSISForumOutcomes>

I am pleased to inform you that during the recently held [ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2022 \(PP-22\)](#) in Bucharest, Romania, H.E. Mr António Guterres, the Secretary-General of the United Nations reiterated *"the importance of supporting the World Summit on the Information Society"* and highlighted that *"the International Telecommunication Union has a vital role to play in accelerating global connectivity for all by 2030"*. ITU's Member States

expressed unanimous support for the WSIS Action Lines to advance the achievement of the SDGs. The PP-22 approved updates to Resolution 140 on ITU's role in implementing the outcomes of the WSIS process that emphasize increasing ICT access, connecting the unconnected, and ensuring the inclusion of the marginalised and vulnerable for the success of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. While the WSIS process must remain aligned with the 2030 Agenda, the WSIS Forum can provide a platform for reviewing implementation to date.

In addition, H.E. Prof Isa Ali Ibrahim (Pantami), Minister, Communications and Digital Economy, Nigeria, and Chairman of the WSIS Forum 2022, organised a side event titled *WSIS Process: WSIS Beyond 2025* at the ITU PP-22, which highlighted the role of the WSIS Action Lines in accelerating the achievement of the SDGs, raised challenges, and concluded with reflections on the emerging trends and the learning experience towards the digital future.

ITU will continue to coordinate with the relevant UN organisations where appropriate, to support the overall review of WSIS Outcomes by UNGA in 2025, and to play an active role in the process according to the ITU's WSIS+20 Roadmap and the review process established by UNGA.

Following the paperless approach of the United Nations, the ITU is limiting the printing of publications. I would be most grateful if you could make all above mentioned documents available on the CSTD website as an official submission from the ITU.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be '赵厚麟' (Zhao Houlin), written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name 'Houlin Zhao'.

Houlin Zhao